

Dredging in the Gulf of Suez.

To the Editors of the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*.

GENTLEMEN,—My friend Dr. Gray having pointed out to me that my observations in my paper on “Dredging in the Gulf of Suez” seem to imply that nothing had been done with the Echinoderms &c. which I presented to the British Museum, I beg to say that, so far from this being the case, Dr. Gray lost no time in naming the specimens, though the list with his notes upon them was unfortunately mislaid, with other papers, in consequence of his illness,—also that the spare duplicates were promptly forwarded to the public museums of Edinburgh and Liverpool, in conformity with my request.

I beg that you will insert this explanation in your forthcoming Number, as nothing could be further from my intention than to impute neglect to Dr. Gray, from whom I have invariably experienced the greatest kindness and willingness to render me assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Isleworth House, W.

Your obedient Servant,

Dec. 8, 1870.

ROBERT M^cANDREW.

On the Structure of the Crania of Reptilia and Batrachia.

By Prof. COPE.

Prof. Cope communicated some results of his studies of the structure of the crania of the orders of Reptilia and Batrachia, recent and extinct. He explained the characters of the Ichthyopterygia as follows:—

The *quadrato-jugal* (squamosal of Owen, ‘Anatomy of the Vertebrata’) present; *postorbital* (of Owen) present. The *squamosal* (supratemporal of Owen) extending over the inner side of the parieto-squamosal arch so as to conceal the parietal portion of it, to the anterior part of the temporal fossa, and in contact with its fellow of the other side. It sends down a columella to the pterygoid. It extends also for a remarkable distance downwards behind the os quadratum. ? *Opisthotic* present. A distinct element exists behind the quadratum, which he thought might be the *suprastapedial*, otherwise called the *incus*, or *hyomandibular*, according to Huxley. The pterygoid prolonged backwards and expanded, in contact with the basioccipital, and extending from it to the quadratum. The posterior pair of elements of the superior face of the cranium being determined to be squamosals, the interpretation of the anterior elements becomes simple. The rhombic element with fontanelle is parietal (frontal of Owen ‘Anatomy of Vertebrata’); and the preceding pair are the frontals (nasals, Owen). The true nasals were shown to lie at the proximal end of the nares.

The structure of the suspensorial region in the Anomodont, *Lystrosaurus*, was next pointed out. In this order there is no quadrato-jugal arch, and the zygomatic arch contains a very small postorbital.